

# Memo

**To:** Board of Managers  
**From:** Michael Younes, Director of Municipal Operations *my*  
**CC:** Shana R. Davis-Cook, Village Manager  
**Date:** 7/7/2014  
**Re:** West Kirke St. and Laurel Pkwy. Intersection Improvements – Project Overview

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## Project Overview

Included in the FY2015 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget is a proposed study of the pedestrian and vehicular traffic flows through the intersections at Connecticut Avenue, Laurel Parkway and West Kirke Street for potential safety improvements surrounding the entrance/driveway to the Village Hall. The project includes hiring a traffic engineer to evaluate and design proposed safety improvements.

## Project Location



### **Goal (Scope) of the Study**

The study will determine what mitigation measures that should be implemented to address several safety concerns with the existing intersection to improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the area. These concerns include vehicles traveling at a high rate of speed, the accommodation of several parked vehicles for employees and visitors to the Hall, constant pedestrian traffic through and surrounding the study area, access to the Post Office and postal boxes (one each at West Lenox Street and West Kirke Street), limited sightlines for drivers traveling on eastbound Laurel Parkway at West Kirke Street, and a wide (and confusing) intersection at West Kirke Street and Connecticut Avenue.

Improvements to be investigated will include, but are not limited to, the construction of a traffic island at the intersection of West Kirke Street and Connecticut Avenue; studying traffic flows along Laurel Parkway and sidewalk improvements in the adjacent West Kirke Street/Laurel Parkway combined public right-of-way. In addition, modifications to the surface treatment of the roadway in front of the Village Hall on Laurel Parkway would also be studied to determine if surface modifications could potentially aid in the safety pedestrians seeking to access the Village Hall. Such treatments include changing the surface to brick, installing brick crosswalks or elevated crosswalks.

### **Timing**

Over the summer, staff will develop and advertise a "Request for Proposals" in order to present a contract authorization request to the Board at its September regular meeting. Once authorized it is anticipated that the traffic flow study and proposed intersection improvements would be completed in spring 2015 to allow for Board review and possible construction of authorized improvements the beginning of FY2016.

### **Budgeted Cost**

The FY2015 CIP current includes a total of \$50,000 for planning and design. An additional \$75,000 is estimated in FY2016 for the construction of any improvements. Actual cost figures for the design or construction work will not fully be known until project proposals are received.

### **Project Coordination**

Since this is a high-traffic area, coordination with several parties in addition to the Board will need to be considered. Some of the parties include:

- Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA): Coordination and permitting will be required through SHA if any improvements are made to the West Kirke Street and Connecticut Avenue intersection since the State right-of-way extends approximately 25 feet west of the Connecticut Avenue roadway. In addition, any construction activities in the area could require lane closure permits along southbound Connecticut Avenue.
- Outside Traffic Engineer: As stated in the project overview, a certified traffic engineer would be retained to study the traffic flow and intersection to vet and propose safety improvement measures.

- Traffic Committee: At the Board's request, the Traffic Committee would be consulted to assist in the review of any recommendations forwarded by the traffic engineer.
- Residents in the immediately surrounding area: Based on the recommendations from the traffic engineer, traffic flow modifications could be proposed. Since these would potentially affect how residents surrounding the Village Hall travel to and from their homes.

### **Board Action Requested**

No formal Board action is required at this time. The staff requests your feedback on the proposed project goals outlined above, which will be developed into a Scope of Work for the Request for Proposals that we intend to distribute over the summer.

### **Attachments**

CIP Expenditure Detail Sheet

## Project Detail Sheet

### West Kirke Street and Laurel Parkway Intersection Improvements

<b>Category</b>	Infrastructure	<b>Date Last Modified</b>	February 5, 2014
<b>Department</b>	Public Works	<b>Funding Source</b>	SafeSpeed
<b>Zone Location</b>	3	<b>Status</b>	Planning/Engineering

#### EST. EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (dollars in thousands)

Cost Element	Total	Est. FY14	Total 6 Years	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	Beyond 6 Years
Planning, Design and Supervision	50	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land acquisition	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Improvements and Utilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	75	0	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

#### EST. FUNDING SCHEDULE (dollars in thousands)

SafeSpeed Revenues	125	0	125	50	75	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

#### EST. OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

Labor/Maintenance			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Materials/Equipment			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Description

This project will study the traffic flow and intersection at Connecticut Avenue, Laurel Parkway and West Kirke Street for potential traffic flow and safety improvements. Improvements to be investigated will include but are not limited to the construction of a traffic island; studying traffic flows along Laurel Parkway and sidewalk improvements in the adjacent West Kirke Street Laurel Parkway combined public right-of-way. As part of the project, a traffic engineer will be retained to evaluate and design any proposed changes.

#### Estimated Schedule

This project is currently under the planning and engineering study phase.

#### Cost Change

There have been no cost changes to this project.

#### Justification

This project will address several safety concerns of the existing intersection to improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the intersection.

#### Coordination

Board of Managers  
General Government  
Public Works Department  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
Traffic Committee

#### Map

